AN AFTER-THOUGHT

JOHN K. LEYS.

Earlier in the day I had heard far off the | Rodenfels, I believe people generally conlow mutterings of thunder; now they came | sider him a very charming man, and I at more frequent intervals and were louder | know he quite won my poor mother's heart. and more distinct, proving that the storm | He brought her to his castle here, and I was drawing nearer. Already it was dark | went to stay with an aunt in England. in the deep shadow of the pines, which | "Little by little the conviction grew on me reared their somber heads into the cloud- from reading my mother's letters that she laden sky. I pressed on for another mile, was not happy, but until I came here a and then stood still in uncertainty. It was | week ago, forcing myself in a manner on imperative that I should reach some shel- | the Baron's hospitality, I had no idea what ter before the storm broke, and the doubts | her life had been like all those months. that had harassed me for the last hour | Whether the Baron is in his right mind or had now changed to something more defin- not I cannot tell. I only know that he seems ite. I was only sure of one thing-I had to take an insane, a fiendish pleasure in

lost my way. whose fault it was. The fact remained castle, and wholly in the power of a fiend that I was lost in a strange and thinly- who takes delight in inflicting pain, must peopled neighborhood-one of the most re- | be like. mote districts of the German Empire-that I was tired and hungry, that night was at I have entreated her to appeal to the law, hand and a thunderstorm approaching. to the Emperor, to the British ambassador. Should I go on or turn back?

There seemed little use in turning back, have been crushed out of her. for the last house I had passed was many miles to my rear. I resolved to go on.

as a shilling.

There was no wind, but as often as I "At the end of the banquet the lady of tion that was coming.

ruptly into the forest. I followed it and presence of the assembled guests. found myself in a darkness that might be I was wet to the skin. That did not greatand where to find them I knew not.

this adventure might mean for me some- she had made up her mind to poison her strength gave way.

Suddenly I ran against a wall-a low wall | night." of rough stone-and my heart leaped up in my breast. Any sign of humanity was welcome to me in my desolate condition, and knew a tenth part of what she has suffered I told myself that this park wall (as it you would not be surprised that even so seemed to be) would lead me to some gentle a nature as hers should have an indwelling if I followed it. I scrambled over, satiable craving for revenge. But I know and followed the wall, keeping it on my not what to do. I care little for saving

then it abruptly ended. Without stopping, terrible remorse she is preparing for her-I turned sharp to my right and walked | self. Besides, her guilt will be plain. She straight on. The ground was covered with | will be charged with the murder, and-" young trees and bushes, through which I made my way at well as I could. All this | the poison." time the thunder was crashing above me for the door, and, finding it open, stepped | her intention, so she will not see me."

with a bench that ran around the room, a | der done.' table and a few chairs. Thankful to be able to rest, I sank into the nearest chair, and let my hands drop by my sides with

sheer fatigue. my ears to listen, and could have sworn I heard a long, indrawn breath, and something like a sob. I felt certain that I was him." I said. not alone in the summer house.

"Is any one there?" I called out, speaking, of course, in German. There was no hour the banquet will begin, unless the darkness, but could see nothing. Then | Even in that case there will be a feast of came a flash, and I saw a white figure, the some sort. Oh, what a mockery it will be! figure of a woman. She was sitting on the I shall not be present. I told the Baron bench in the corner furthest from the door. | so, and although he glared at me like a wild

-or rather, I kept looking, so as to be denounce my own mother as a murderer?"

There was no answer.

I am half dead with hunger, and-" I paused. Still there was no answer.

which this summer house belongs," I said. people of consequence in this part of the | them. "I will try to find it. Surely they can't be country-men whom he is sure to know. Bending towards my host, I said, in a so inhuman as to refuse me shelter on a I will then bribe or persuade the steward | tone no one else could hear: night like this!"

There was no reply.

as gently as I could: in some trouble; and if I can be of the for I confess I think my own a very poor smallest service to you, I shall be very one. But it is the best that occurs to me."

glad." You are an Englishman, are you not?" "Yes. And you-are you English?"

"Yes, I am." "Then that gives you a claim on me, don't you think?"

The only answer to this was a long, trembling sigh. The rain had now ceased, and our voices

were plainly audible. "I will tell you!" she burst out, impulsive-

ly. Then, suddenly checking herself: "But what is the use? You cannot help me. No one can help me-no one-no one!" "Won't you let me try?"

"Perhaps you can advise me. I will tell you why I am in such despair. Sit down

I sat down on the bench at her side, at a little distance. Though the rain had ceased the lightning was still quivering in the air, and it was only by its fitful light that I could see at intervals the white face of the girl near me. For the most part, the summer house was as dark as a coal mine.

"My name is Pauline Eversleigh," she began. "My father has been dead some years. Twelve months ago, much to my grief, my mother married the Baron Von

causing my poor mother humiliation and I could have sworn that I had faithfully | suffering. I have seen her wince under his followed the directions of the old wood- cruel tongue till I could have sprung upon cutter whom I had met at the cross-roads, him like a tigress; I have seen her skin but I must have misunderstood him. Per- black-but I can say no more. You can haps he said "right" when he meant "left." | imagine for yourself what the life of a gen-There was little use in asking myself tle, delicate woman, shut up in this lonely

> "From the first I have urged her to flee. But the very power of resistance seemed to an hysterical girl.

"Suddenly, this very day, there came a change. I must tell you that this is the an-As if to warn me against this resolve a niversary of the wedding day, and it is a peal of thunder-not a distant growling custom of the house of Rodenfels that this time, but a real thunderclap-echoed every anniversary of the wedding of the overhead and died away in sullen mutter- head of the house shall be celebrated by a ings on the mountainside. It was followed | feast to which the whole family is invited. by a few drops of rain, warm and as large | The guests must have arrived by this time if the storm has not kept them away.

stopped to listen there came a vague, mel- | the castle fills two silver cups, which are ancholy "sough" among the pines, as never used on any other occasion, with wine though they sighed to think of the desola- of a choice old vintage, and the husband and wife, after congratulating each other, The path—a mere bridlepath—turned ab- pledge one another in the old wine in the

"My mother was revolted when the baron felt. Still I walked rapidly on. Another | told her that he would insist on the cereclap of thunder, louder than the first, and mony being carried out to-night in the presthen, a few minutes later, a flash so near | ence of all the members of the family. She and so vivid that instinctively I sprang | refused to go through the mockery and rain came down in earnest. In five minutes | yielded, as I knew she must do in the end, and it is my firm belief that her misery has ly matter, but I needed rest and shelter, unhinged her mind, for she afterwards found me alone-it is very seldom that we Before long I became convinced, by my are permitted to be alone together-and told frequent blundering against the trunks of | me that she had by her a phial of strong the pines, that I had left the path. I was poison which in happier days she had used almost in despair, and began to fear that (greatly diluted) as a toilet wash, and that thing more than a wetting and a night of husband in the very hour of his scornful discomfort. It seemed to me that I might | victory. She would put the poison, she dewander in that trackless forest till my clared, in the cup which she would give him with her own hands after supper to-

"But she could not mean it?" "Ah! I fear she does mean it. If you For perhaps a mile I followed it, and stant if it would save my mother from the

"But she is mad. You ought to take away "I looked for it in her dressing case. It and the lightning flashing around me. So is not there. That means that she has dark was it that when I came to a small | taken it and hidden it to prevent me from lake I should have walked right into the getting hold of it. And when, half an hou water had it not been for a lightning flash | ago, I went to her room to make a last that showed me the lake and also a small appeal to her, she would not let me in, building close to the edge, only a few hun- would not speak to me. She is afraid. I bedred yards away. I hurried to it, groped | Heve, that I might persuade her to give up

"Then there is nothing for it but to tell I found myself in a kind of summer house, the Baron. We cannot sit by and see mur-

"But think what that would mean for my mother! She would go daily in fear of her life, for I fully believe that the Baron is The rain made a loud rattling noise on the | at least of daily threatening that he means

roof, but I fancied that there was another to murder her, so as to make her life one sound, if I could only hear it. I strained long expectation of death. Of that I am sure he is capable. He would enjoy it." "It is plain that your mother must leave

answer. I strained my eyes to pierce the guests have been delayed by the storm. on the table at the baron's right hand. I beast I stuck to what I said. Could I When the next flash came I looked again | sit by and see murder done? Or could I For a minute or so I sat silent. It was showed me that the woman's hands were clear to me that the intended crime must still keeping her eyes steadily fixed on the clasped upon her breast, and that her face be prevented at any cost. But how to do glass she was carrying, as though afraid was turned towards me, as if in alarm. this without betraying the unhappy baron- that she might spill its contents.

I crossed over to her, and said: "You ess passed my imagination. At length some- I felt myself grow hot, then cold. It was to give me a place, if not close to the "Let me advise you, Baron, not to drink Baron, yet near him, so that I can act if that wine. It may hurt you."

Bewildered and annoyed, I was on the necessary. If your mother does not yield He started, and searched my face with point of turning away, when a sudden to your persuasions you will let me know his eyes. He must have read in my face ing and have never seen it since. Pauline lightning flash showed me a beautiful pale by some signal and I will not allow the the anxiety I felt, for his eyelids drooped I have met since, in England. She told me face turned up to mine, with such an anx- Baron to drink the poisoned wine. If there and his eyes contracted till they almost that she had watched all that went on in ious, yearning expression in the eyes that is no other way I will tell him that it is disappeared. Somehow, I then felt that all the hall from a gallery, and when she saw I stopped involuntarily. As soon as the poisoned, but I promise you that I will only that Pauline had told me was true. It the cup which she thought poisoned actuthunder crashing and rolling above us do this in the last resort and without nam- seemed a long time, though in reality i ally handed to the baron she sent an imwould allow my voice to be heard, I said, ing or implicating your mother in any could only have been a second or two, be- ploring message to her mother to make way. If you can think of a better plan, fore his answer came. "Pardon me if I say that you seem to b | pray tell me and I will try to carry it out,

"I cannot think of a better," said Paul- hurt me?" "If I could only see you, I should know- ine. "I will try to see my mother, and if

will send you a clean handkerchief by the stance can have been put into it. Into the butler. No one will suspect anything from | bottle, perhaps, but-" that. If you do not get the token before the end of supper, you will know that I have failed, and act as you think best. were out of sight. I had not thought of And may heaven help you!"

lowed her to the castle.

I was well received. been shown and welcomed me with a smile | behind her chair. that would have prejudiced anyone in his | "You think it would be safer to pour away ical Teuton, and in manner a perfect man | baron. of the world.

duction which I handed him as a proof of hand, went to the other end of the table. est is the Dead sea-1,290 feet below sea my respectability, he told me that he was | Was he going to meet his wife as she recharmed to be of service to me and that I turned to the room and publicly denounce was specially welcome that night, as it her? Surely not. After all, he had no proof rectly after the marriage it is carefully put was a family festival-the anniversary of that she had intended to poison him. It away and reserved until death makes its his marriage-and that a few friends had was only suspicion. come to celebrate the event. Then, beg- | The lady sitting on my left said some-

and slipped a note into my hand. I read came back, still carrying the silver cup, it by the lamp that hung from the hand of It was full of blood-red wine. a bronze statue on the landing.

"I have seen my mother," so the note shall make one more effort at the last mo- | the same wine." ment, but my chief dependence is upon you, if it be possible."

The banqueting hall, a fine room some

Some twenty or thirty guests were seated | sorts. But which of that long line fearing to draw attention to themselves. | Mine, surely, is a lot to be envied!" There was a sense of constraint on all, and I inferred from this that the relations that subsisted between the host and hostess were no secret to the company.

evident. The loud chat and laughter that | cherished by a guardian angel in living usually accompanies a gathering of the flesh and blood? Who so loving, so tender, kind were conspicuously absent. Even the rich wines that were served failed to have

had not come. In spite of myself I turned round often, in the hope that I would see | thee!" a servant with a salver in his hand, but none appeared and my heart sank.

As though by a preconcerted signal a

hush fell upon the room, and the lady of

who rose and gravely returned the salute, end of the room. All present were watchhead she took two silver cups which had them from a bottle wrapped in a napkin which the butler handed to her. With steady hand she filled first one, then the other. Such was the silence that I could distinctly hear, even at that distance, the gurgling of the wine as it flowed out of the neck of the bottle in which it had lain for a generation. The butler handed her a small silver tray and she carefully placed the glasses upon it. Then, her eyes fixed on the glasses as though she were anxious not to spill the wine, she carried them

down the long row of guests till she reached her husband's side. He stood up as she came near and put glasses from the tray, but she was too took the glass nearest to her and put it on her face she never once raised her eyes to meet his, but made a deep curtsey and retired. The red spot in either cheek had

Slowly the lady walked back to her place

have nothing to fear. I am a tourist, and I thing like a plan occurred to me. "You dreadful to sit there and see the man at have lost my way, and got caught in this | must go back to the castle at once," I said, | my side, turning the poisoned cup round storm. Can you tell me if there is any "and try to see the baroness and turn her and round between his fingers, as he pointhouse near where I can get food and shel- from her purpose. Make it clear to her ed out to the lady on his right the beautiful that the heaviest punishment will fall, not chasing on the goblet, knowing all the time on the Baron, but on herself and on you. | that he was toying with the messenger of "Surely," said I, "you will not refuse to In the meantime I will go up to the castle | death. I looked behind me once more; the do me so small a service as that? I as- and beg fer shelter. On such a night they signal was not given. I became nervous, sure you you have nothing to fear from me. | can scarecly turn me away. I will see the | confused. The only thought in my mind Baron, and try to get an invitation to the was that the intended murder must not banquet. That ought not to be difficult, take place. The baron must be warned. "There must be a large house near to for I have letters of introduction to some As for the consequences-I could not help

"Do you know what you are saying?" "I do."

He-lan't your hat a little large for church, my dear? She-Oh! no; I know the width of the door and it will go thr. ugh quite easily.

"Or into the cup," I said, hastily. "True," he said, thoughtfully. "They

"Amen," said I, rising to my feet. She | Together we glanced towards the head of went out of the summer-house and I fol- the table, but the baroness was not looking at us. A servant was speaking to her very earnestly, speaking into her ear. She hest-As soon as the baron heard that a wang tated for a moment, then without a word dering Englishman craved his hospitality of apology to those near her she rose and he came into the room into which I had | followed him to the door that was directly

favor. He was singularly handsome, about | this rare and costly wine and refill the cup the middle height, not at all like the typ- with some commoner beverage?" said the

"That is what I would strongly advise." Scarcely glancing at the letters of intro- He rose, and, carrying the glass in his the world. Its level is 16,600 feet. The low-

ging me to excuse him, as he had to go thing to me which I was forced to answer. and welcome some guests who had just My eyes were compelled to look at her face arrived, he handed me over to a servant, as I replied to her trivial question, though who took me to a bedroom, where I found | they longed to follow the movements of the a bath and a complete change of clothing baron. Apparently the guests supposed that awaiting me. As I dressed I could scarcely he had gone to see what had become of the believe that the things which had been baroness, for the subdued talk once more told me in the summer-house were any- became general. I looked hastily around, thing else than the exaggerated fancies of | The baron was speaking to some one sitting near the head of the table. The On my way down stairs a maid met me | baroness had not returned. Presently he

I questioned him with a look and he replied to my look with a smile. "Do not ran, "but she will promise me nothing. I be alarmed," he said gently. "This is not

He had scarcely said this than he rose to you. I have arranged that you shall sit on his feet, still holding the silver cup in his the baron's left hand. Spare her, I entreat | right hand. The baroness had come back and was sitting in her place.

"Friends, kinsmen and neighbors," said sixty feet long, was lighted by a multitude | the baron, "the simple ceremony you are of wax candles, and the feast had already about to witness has not been performed in begun when I entered. There was a door at | this hall for many a year. Yet you all either end of the hall, and that by which I | know that it is the tradition of the house of was conducted was behind the head of the Rodenfels that on each anniversary of the property longer. table. Pausing to bow to the baroness as I | marriage of the head of the house he must passed. I noticed that she was a slight, pledge his lady, and she must pledge him, girlish looking woman, who yet retained a | in a cup of the old Rhine wine that is kept good deal of her former beauty. A bright | for such occasions. Two-and-twenty lords | duce a bill to that effect. The movement red spot burnt in each pale cheek, and I of Rodenfels have pledged their spouses in will have backing in both parties and will fancied that her eyes shone with an un- the cup I hold in my hand, wishing long life, prosperity and happiness to their confrom the far land of England a bride so not much conversation, and that most of richly dowered, not only with gold, but those present spoke in an undertone, as if | with beauty, with intellect, with charm? Sympathetic murmurs rose from the

"My life, I feel certain, is destined to be a long and happy one. How could it be As dinner proceeded this became more otherwise, when it is watched over and so faithful as the spouse of the Earon of

Rodenfels? Which of you does not envy me? Which of you will refuse to drink with Course succeeded course; the time for the me long life, prosperity and happiness exceeding the lot of mortals, to the gracious lady who has condescended to honor my poor home? Sweetest lady, I drink to

He drained the cup and sat down, while answering cries arose on all sides. I was appalled. For a moment I thought the man must be mad-mad, or possessed of a very the house slowly rose. Bowing to her lord, demon of cruelty. The ridiculously exaggerated praise must have tortured the ears the baroness left her place and walked to of the unhappy woman who heard it, and a lofty sideboard that stood at the upper | who must be now expecting that her husband would die before her eyes. I glanced at one and another, and saw that I was not alone in my thoughts. It was evident been placed there in readiness, and filled to many, if not to all, that the baron had poured contempt, the bitterest contempt, on her whom he was pretending to honor.

There was a dead silence as the baroness slowly rose and took her cup in her hand. "You have heard what he said," she said in a low voice that thrilled to the furthest what he said, and you know that it is lies. You know that I have been the most wretched of women since the black day when I became the Baroness Rodenfels. But you do not know how full of pain and misery my life has been. I have determined to end it-here, before you all! This

wine is poisoned. I prefer to die." Almost before the startled cries burst out, before a hand could be raised to stop her, she had raised the cup to her lips and

had drained it to the dregs. All the men and women there, all save one, sprang up, cries of horror upon their lips. One only sat back in his chair, smil-

ing, unconcerned. He rose, as if to speak, but in the act of opening his lips the truth flashed upon

A gnastly whiteness came over his face; he trembled and sank back into his seat. Then I understood. With diabolical malice that of his wife and had brought back hers | thor's terms really did not seem to warrant the one containing the poison with which ists." That magazine article will not be evinced in the part taken by Dr. John young man. she had meant to end her life. He had | bought. unwittingly, and without his wife's knowl-

edge, swallowed the cup of death. contorted and a scream of agony burst from his lips, then another, and another. That instant the hall was in an uproar. Some ran this way, some that; some called for horsemen to ride for a doctor; some Where the windflower and violet, amber and called for help to carry the baron to his | On south sloping brooksides should smile in the room. The baroness lay on the floor in a O'er the cold winter beds of their late waking dead faint.

Four strong men carried their master from the hall. By midnight all was over. I left the Castle of Rodenfels next mornsome excuse for regaining possession of the cup. The baroness, with a strange smile on her face, had answered: "Don't "And you advise me that this wine-may be afraid, child; I have thought of a better way than that," and had then kissed her passionately and gone back to her place. I persuade her to change her resolution I "It is impossible that any foreign sub- Pauline, suspecting nothing of the truth, was on her way upstairs when she was

> brought back by the cries of the guests. "And now?" I asked, in a whisper. "She is in a French convent," said Pauline. "Her life in this world is over."

[Copyright, 1902.] The Prayer and the Answer.

And what though I do cry unto Him and He hear

What though it may be that my cry draw Him

Shall it sway His will in His giving or taking?

Shall it move His hand in His molding or mak-Will He mete out the bounty that I shall receive By my measure of asking, if I but believe? Will the cry of my heart be to Him a revealing Of what is my need? Can my poor blind appealing See, clear, each result that would follow my owning Of what I desire? For my craving or moaning Shall Infinite Wisdom and Infinite Kindness Concede to belief what it asks for in blindness? O Thou Infinite Love! not in vain is my plead-Each prayer that I breathe for my will inter-Doth draw me to Thine; all Thy tenderness knowing pour out my heart; as I trust Thy bestowing In all that I ask, so I trust Thy denying: Thou fillest my heart with the peace of relying.

OUT OF THE ORDINARY.

An annual cyclopedia for 1901 places the total gifts and bequests in the United States last year at \$107,360,000. No person in Russia is allowed to marry more than five times, and no person over

eighty is permitted to marry. Japanese paper pocket handkerchiefs are now supplied to consumptive prisoners detained at Wormwood Scrubs, England. Two troops of cavalry are stationed in the Yellowstone National Park. Their duties

are to prevent poaching and vandalism. An artist must be dead ten years before specimens of his work are permitted to hang on the walls of the Louvre in Paris. The first mention of shaving is in Genesis xli., 14, where we read that Joseph, on being summoned before the King, shaved

Askal-Chin, in Thibet, is the lake which lies at a greater height than any other in level.

The bridal veil of a Japanese young lady

is subsequently used as her shroud. Di

use again necessary. Glass is the most perfectly elastic substance in existence. A glass plate kept under pressure in a bent condition for twenty-

five years will return to its exact original form. Steel comes next. Emigration from Ireland has decreased. Last year there were 39,870 Irish emigrants, All silently it lay in wait, a decrease of 7,237 as compared with 1900. Of the total 21,527 were females, and over

80 per cent. went to the United States. In the public schools of Japan the English language is required to be taught by law. The teacher came with haughty tread, The Japanese youth in the open ports and | commercial cities are all eager to learn | His forehead knit in studious frown, English as a passport to wealth, position O'er spectacles that ne'er looked down. and employment.

Of the 478 ancient and modern translations of the Bible 456 have been made by missionaries, and the annual circulation in what are known as mission fields is over | Long may the teacher rue that day. 3,250,000 volumes, largely parts, but with nearly 95,000 entire Bibles.

An ingenious method of obtaining a repu- A curving scratch is on his chin; tation for patriotism has been invented by "LAST la!" says Teddy, with a grin. certain Berlin publicans. On their shop N. C. S. fronts they hang legends to this effect: "So long as the war in South Africa lasts forbid an Englishman to enter my prem-The farmhouse in South Spencer, Mass.,

sewing machine, was born, in 1819, has been as she should live, to be paid by them in advertised for sale by auction. No reason proportion to the amount of land each reis assigned for the sale, but it is understood | ceived. To Thomas was bequeathed a certhat the Howe heirs feel unable to hold the Colorado politicians are quietly maturing plans to repeal the constitutional amendment relating to equal suffrage, and at the next session of the Legislature will intro-

mother her share, they had to decide how undoubtedly pass if put to a vote of the the assistance of the village schoolmaster. markable kleptomaniac on record. This is He solved the problem as follows: "The an old woman whose passion for smoking | first 30 acres that Thomas has is one-tenth has impelled her to pilfer pipes from Pariof the farm-on that, therefore, \$100 is due. sian shops with such industry that no fewer | Of the remaining \$900 Thomas must pay than 2,600 were found in her lodgings. All half as much as John, or \$300 and \$600. were meerschaums and thirty-nine were Hence, the mother will receive \$400 from

The "Towers of Silence" are two tall was accepted as correct; but some time towers used by the Parsees as cemeteries. after Thomas began to doubt whether he They never bury their dead, but leave the body exposed on the top of one of these towers until the sun and the rain and the according to the terms of the will. fowls of the air have cleaned the bones of all flesh. Then the hones are collected and placed in the other tower. There are pigmy horses we hear of from

travelers in the Pamirs, and there are very small ponies in Iceland and Shetland, but Prince Asha, a foal of two Iceland ponies, recently exhibited at the Nouveau Cirque, Paris, and four years old, stands only twenty-six and one-half inches. This measurement is considered the smallest in the There is no more interesting or curious sight on this earth than the interior of the | "I met him at the social, first, you know.

extinct crater, Aso San, about thirty miles from the city of Kumamoto, in Japan. It is inhabited by 20,000 people, who live and | So much-" "Well, so much what? I'd like prosper within its vertical wall 800 feet high. The inhabitants rarely make a journey into the outer world, but form, as it were, a nation by themselves. The University of Athens is very old. It The spark that fired the mine; for quick he is conducted on the German plan; most of the professors are graduates of German

heard about the buildings more frequently

than any other except Greek. The institu-

tion has a large amount of property, and several of the chairs have been handsomely endowed by private individuals. Among the famous bells of Dewsbury, Yorkshire, England, is one known as 'Black Tom of Soothill," which was presented to the church in expiation of a murder. "Black Tom" is always rung on Christmas eve. Its solemn tolling as it strikes the first tap at exactly midnight is known all

over Yorkshire as the "devil's knell," it being the notion that when Christ was born a system by the fact that persons may sur- | sure to see everything that is to be seen vive an accidental shock of 2,000 volts. The | and some things that are not to be. I have | Adams, Young America Abroad; Mary Ann Electrical World and Engineer points out a quaint way with me, so that I make that the conditions of a chance contact are | known the amount of my knowledge as no entirely different from those provided in other one ever makes known the amount of the chair. It says: "There can be no ques- his, and yet I am truthful, very truthful, Watson, The Mind of the Master. tion that the subject dies by the effects of | uncommonly truthful, my training in truth the electric shock, and is dead beyond all telling having been carefully attended to in

When the Author Was Too "Smart."

hope before the autopsy takes place.

London Letter. An English novelist who derives a bountiful income from his American sales and whose name is as well known there as it is here, was approached the other day by the representative of an American magazine, who is also a newspaper correspondent, and who happened to write to the novelist on newspaper stationery. He asked for an opportunity to lay before the great man-no, it wasn't Kipling-a phenomenally good offer for a magazine article. He received in reply a card on which this courteous author wrote: "I never see American journalists until I have a satisfactory assurance from some one I know that their | missionary to the heathen in Africa after smartness is under control." It is a pleasure to be able to report that the correspondent in question wrote in reply that a his mother prevailed over his call to save he had cunningly put down his cup near | request for a magazine article at the aua gratuitous insult to "American journal-

April. Even as I looked at him his face was The spring comes slowly up this way .- Coleridge. 'Tis the noon of the springtime, yet never a bird In the wind-shaken elm or the maple is heard; for green meadow grasses, wide levels of snow, And blowing of drifts where the crocus should

The frosty flake eddies, the ice crystal shoots: And longing for light, under wind-driven heaps laurel creeps. Unkissed of the sunshine, unbaptized of the showers.

With buds scarcely swelled, which should burst into flowers: We wait for thy coming, sweet wind of the south. For the touch of thy light wings, the kiss of thy For the yearly evangel thou bearest from God. Resurrection and life to the graves of the sod! -John Greenleaf Whittier. | On arriving at Liverpool he was so nerv-

SPHINX LORE

Enigmatic Knots of Odd and Ingenious Kind for the Leisure Hour.

Lewiston, Maine.]

ROBERT.

73 .- A COMMERCIAL AMBITION.

74.-REVERSAL.

Said, "FIRST! that's nothing but a LAST."

Not far beyond the schoolhouse gate;

His hat set sidewise on his head.

He touched the LAST, and up it sprang,

"Don't tread on me," it seemed to say;

75.-TANGLED DIVISION.

and John, his farm, on condition that they

tain 30-acre lot and in addition exactly

half of what John was to have. On dividing

the farm, Thomas received 110 acres alto-

gether, and John twice as much, excepting

the 30 acres; that is, 220, less 30, or 190 acres,

thus making up the 300 acres of the original

When the time came for paying their

Not being good at figures, they obtained

Thomas and \$600 from John." This decision

was getting all that he should, although he

was forced to confess that everything was

What is the reader's opinion? F. L. S.

76.-HOMONYM.

They stood alone within the moonlit porch,

"The course of true love never did run

"I will explain," she said, his ire to soothe.

"*** **," said he."

"You see, it happened this way," she began;

'Twas such a simple thing, but you do make

About such LITTLE matters so much-so-

"ees," said she.

That simple word, it seemed indeed to be

With angry hand her softening touch he

77.-ENIGMA.

I am a great navigator. I navigated the

Mississippi in a far more responsible pos

tion than any in which I have ever navi-

ly respected than I was on the river. I have

"****," said he. MYRTLE.

Upon his brow a frown of giant size

spurned-

A willful maid, a fond but angry youth;

Upon his brow a frown that boded ill-

A father dying left to his sons, Thomas

His spectacles are knocked askew.

His nose is marbled black and blue,

But Teddy, as he scampered past,

Revengeful as a boomerang:

where Elias Howe, the inventor of the should give to their mother \$1,000, so long

universities and the German language is | Showed how the fires of jealous passion



[Any communication intended for this department should be addressed to E. R. Chadbourn,

78.-NUMERICAL.

"Give 3-4 a bite to eat," he said, "From your pientiful 6-7-8-9-10, I'm not 7-8-9-10 to work for bread. Or I wouldn't be asking help of men.

I 2-3 old and 1-2-3-4, And I have eaten no food to-day." Thus he asked for alms at the rich man's

And was quickly, scornfully, turned away.

No loud 1-2-3-4-5-6 he uttered, More dead the old man seemed than alive; No curses under his breath he muttered,

Like angry, sinful 3-4-5. But he crept away to a lonely spot; The dreary night came on apace;

And long ere the morn all his griefs forgot; The beggar slept with a smile on his face.

He slept! 'Twas the sleep from which none

(The words removed form a quotation from Hamlet.) 1. From a pigment take a certain article and leave a measure of capacity. 2. From lessened take not much and leave a couch. 3. From told in gossip take a greater amount and leave a fish. 4. From a familiar town in Palestine take a particle expressing comparison and leave a Turkish Governor. 5. From cooking in an oven take relatives and leave a sack. 6. From disembarking take furthermore and leave a fish. From highly favored take not so much

80.-CHARADE. 'Twas at the theater that she wore That ONE of TWO. She had the seat in front of me So that I could not help but see That ONE of TWO.

That ONE of TWO. And hoped that it some other place Might seek than right before my face; That ONE of TWO!

The play? They say it was a bore. That ONE of TWO Hid everything from me, alas! My longing looks not once could pass

That ONE of TWO! If it is there, I'll surely know That ONE of TWO. AMARANTH.

PRIZE FOR APRIL.

An attractive edition of Scott's poetical works will be presented the reader sending in the best lot of answers for April. The solutions-whether one or several each time -are to be forwarded in weekly installments, full credit to be given each compe-

ANSWERS. 57-Be sure you're right, then go ahead. 58-Found, bound. 59-1. Because the edge is a hedge, 2. His hall is not his all. 3. Ail (ale.) 4. There is

60-Sword, draws. 61-Benjamin Franklin, Poor Richard's Almanac; John Wilson, Lights and Shadows

62-Flitter-mouse. my early youth, while my I was only slightly exaggerated. I am witty, very witty, un-

> Sable, 11. Bear, 12, Beaver, 13, Badger, 64-Sourest, souters, tussore, ousters, tou-

commonly witty. Indeed I-as you will be compelled to admit when you learn my

The Advice Dr. Watson Gave to a Certain Young Missionary.

name-AM RANK WIT personified.

What is my name?

New York Commercial Advertiser. The reason advanced by the Rev. Rob-J., for giving up his chosen life work as eight years' preparation-that his duty to souls-has caused some discussion in Pres- | passage to Batanga, the field allotted to Watson, the famous Ian Maclaran, in ad-

Foreign Missions. Park Presbyterian Church in Liverpool, time, and I hardly knew how to explain to and Mrs. Schoonmaker's description of his him my perplexity. I told him that my call upon the literary divine is interesting. duty to God was the paramount thing in He spoke freely of the meeting to a re- my mind, but over against it was my duty porter who called upon him at his Plan- to my mother. I told him it would almost field home. He declared that he had not | break my heart to give up my chosen work. thought of the suffering his loss would; for which I had been fitting myself since cause his mother until the moment of his | 1895 departure for England. During the pas- "Whenever I hesitated he asked me quessage his mental distress increased as he tions, and so possessed himself of my whole recalled how his father on his deathbed life story. He asked me where I got my Round the boles of the pine wood the ground | had besought him to make his mother | education, and, when I told him at Princehappy and give up missionary labor. But ton, he remembered that he was an honorover against this duty to his parents ap- ary member of one of the societies there, parently stood his duty to his God. That | to which, as it happened, I also belonged. was the first consideration in his mind. Then he asked about Dr. Patton's prede-The needs of the foreign field and the call | cessor as president of Princeton, Dr. Mche felt he had received to preach the gos- Cosh, and I told him some stories that pel to the heathen made the sacrifice of were current in the university, which

ous and agitated as to be almost incoherent when on the subject of his journey. He did not personally know Dr. Watson, but, being an admirer of his works, he resolved to lay his case before him and be guided by his counsel. Accordingly he attended the Sefton-park Church on Sunday evening, and after the sermon went up and told Dr. Watson briefly of the struggle through which he was passing. "Go home to your mother," promptly replied the minister. Young Schoonmaker went away not sure

byterian circles and much interest is him, he repaired to the minister's residence. Dr. Watson consented to see the "He is a tall, fine-looking man in the vising the young divine to abandon his trip | prime of life," said Mr. Schoonmaker toto the west coast of Africa, where he had | day, describing his experience, "and he been assigned by the Presbyterian Board of seems to have a great power of drawing one out and enlisting one's affections. Dr. Watson is minister of the Sefton | was in a wretched state of mind by that

that this advice was sound, and on the fol-

lowing Tuesday afternoon; realizing that he

must decide at once if he were to secure

"He took a great interest in America, and asked many questions about the customs here. For instance, he said that he understood that Americans did not often have wines and liquors served at table in their homes, and that, to a great extent, they were teetotalers. I told him that a great deal of liquor was drunk here in other places than the home. "Thus an hour slipped by and, with a start, I recollected that if I did not hurry should be too late for the steamer to Batanga. I reminded him of the necessity for a prompt decision, and then he told me that a son of his was going to South Africa to the seat of war, and how hard it

was to let him go. " 'Go home,' he said to me at last, 'Go home to your mother, There is no higher duty to God than your duty to "I told him that another young missionary would embark for the west coast of

Africa in August, and suggested that might return home for the summer and start out with him at that time. " 'No,' replied Dr. Watson, 'If you go back now Africa must always be to you a closed book. "Before I bid him good-by my nervousness had all left me. I had no kind of difficulty regarding my duty. I wondered that I had been so long in seeing the

truth. I had no further interest in the

sailing of the steamship to Batanga. What people might say distressed me no longer. Dr. Watson had solved the problem, and I rested in his decision. "Never since that moment has a doubt of the rightness of my present course crossed my mind. The return voyage was pleasant to me. I no longer lay awaks nights, unable to sleep, debating in my mind conflicting ideas or duty, and now, when I am again at home and learn how my mother suffered during my absence,

and see how giad she is over my return, I am more than ever convinced that Dr. Watson's judgment was correct."

Not a prayer, with its 2 to 5, was heard As the pauper's lonely grave they make, "I to 10!" The rich man spoke the word. 79.-WORD DELETIONS.

and leave a section of garden. 8. From not thanked take a conjunction and leave old or ugly. 9. From superficial take benevolent DOROTHEA. and leave to coze.

I saw it coming in the door,

Vain hope! as I have said before, That ONE of TWO Bestowed itself with careless ease Before my eyes. May furies seiz That ONE of TWO!

That ONE of TWo. It earned my TOTAL evermore, And when next to the play I go,

titor at the close of the month. The winner of the prize for No. 51 will be announced with other results of the March solving.

nothing but air on their heads. 5. He walks right up to the halter (altar.)

of Scottish Life; Sara J. Lippincott, New gated anything else, and yet on the broad Life in New Lands; Elizabeth, Queen of posom of the ocean I am always more high-Roumania, Sappho; Joel Chandler Harris, Daddy Jake, the Runaway; Alexander been in as many countries as any Jack Tar, yet in no other respect am I like him, ex- Pope, The Dunciad; Mary Abigail Dodge, cept that he generally wears clothes and I Country Living and Country Thinking; almost always do. As a great traveler, I am Charlotte Bronte, Jane Eyre; William T. Evans, Cross, Middlemarch; Donald G. Mitchell, Reveries of a Bachelor; Rev. John

63-1. Gopher. 2. Ounce. 3. Dog. 4. Tiger. 5. Cat. 6. Camel. 7. Lion. 8. Otter. 9. Fox. 10.

sers, trousse.

"GO HOME TO YOUR MOTHER."

his mother's happiness a virtuous act in seemed to amuse him yery much.



"Where is your son now?" "He's up ter Sing Sing." "Is thet so? I didn't know he wuz gittin a musical edication."